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Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development

Security Council
Sixty-ninth year

Identical letters dated 22 January 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia dated 20 January 2014, in reaction to the creation of the so-called border zone along the river Psou (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex issued as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 34, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Kaha **Imnadze**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the identical letters dated 22 January 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia in reaction to the creation of the so-called border zone along the river Psou

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia expresses its deep concern over the decision of the Russian Federation and its occupation regime in Abkhazia, which provides for the illegal expansion of the so-called border zone 11 km deeper into Georgia's territory along the river Psou from 20 January to 21 March.

The creation of the so-called border zone on Georgia's sovereign territory without the Georgian Government's consent once again violates Georgia's territorial integrity and sovereignty and represents a rough violation of international commitments, fundamental principles of international law and provisions of the 2008 ceasefire agreement by the Russian Federation. The above-mentioned illegal activities are of particular concern in light of the fact that the process of installing wire fences and other artificial barriers continues along the occupation line of Abkhazia and the Tskhinvali region, freedom of movement of the local population is restricted and the military contingent is being increased.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia calls on the Russian Federation to stop its provocative policy against Georgia and fulfil its international obligations, above all, the commitments of the ceasefire agreement.